

## San Diego City Attorney MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 23, 2005

Contact: Maria Velasquez, Communications Director: (619) 235-5725 (pager & voicemail) mvelasquez@sandiego.gov

## CITY ATTORNEY MICHAEL AGUIRRE UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS CITY'S FINANCIAL CRISIS

SAN DIEGO, CA: San Diego's billion dollar pension crisis is one of the worst fiscal disasters confronting any municipality in the United States. City Attorney Michael Aguirre's unique expertise in pension and securities law provides San Diego taxpayers with an attorney who possesses the right qualifications to effectively address the City's financial crisis. His legal career spans three decades:

- As a fraud victim trial attorney in private practice, (1980-2004), Aguirre recovered more than a quarter-billion dollars for victims of pension and stock fraud. He has prevailed in damage actions against such defendants as PricewaterhouseCoopers accounting firm, and Prudential Bache and Bear Stearns investment companies.
- Aguirre is a Certified Fraud Examiner.
- As an Assistant U.S. Attorney in San Diego in 1976, Aguirre directed a grand jury probe of pension racketeering. Its successful conclusion resulted in an appointment as Assistant Counsel to the U.S. Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, where he led an investigation into a nationwide organized crime employee benefits fraud scheme.

City Attorney Michael Aguirre earned his law degree in 1974 from the University of California Berkeley's Boalt Hall. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University and is a former Alumni Council at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

###